How to Sample Solutions

Use a clean, plastic 12-16 oz bottle. Do not clean with detergent. Before filling, rinse the sample container thoroughly with the solution being collected. Fill the container and cap tightly. If samples are stored for any length of time before delivery, they should be refrigerated.

WELLS and MUNICIPAL WATERS— Collect water directly from the tap. Allow water to run for at least 5 to 10 minutes before collecting a sample. For new wells that recently have been chemically treated, allow the water to run for 1 to 2 hours before sampling.

SURFACE WATERS (PONDS, RIVERS, etc.)— Sample from as close to the middle of the pond or stream as possible. Avoid surface or bottom residues.

NUTRIENT SOLUTIONS— Collect nutrient solutions directly from the emitters. Flush emitter lines sufficiently to ensure that the sample is representative of the supply solution.

Tips

- Do not submit less than 12 oz water/solution.
- Fill out the solution sample information form as completely as possible.
- Specify the type of solution being submitted using the correct **solution code** as this will determine your recommendations.
- Use a plastic bottle for storing and mailing. Don't use glass.
- Do not submit concentrated fertilizer solutions.

The standard solution analysis includes nitrate-nitrogen, ammonium-nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, calcium, magnesium, sulfur, iron, zinc, manganese, copper, boron, sodium, chloride, aluminum, pH, alkalinity, hardness, electrical conductivity/soluble salts, sodium absorption ratio. Molybdenum (Mo) is available by request for $2 per sample. The standard analysis does not differ based on the report type selected.

Fees: $5 per sample for N.C. growers
($25 for out-of-state; $12 for N.C. researchers).

Turnaround time: 3 days from receipt.

Send samples to: NCDA&CS Agronomic Services-Solution Lab

Mailing address:
1040 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699
Physical Address:
4300 Reedy Creek Rd, Raleigh, NC 27607